

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, NI, US

SUBJECT: DAILY TIMES LEAKS MORE EXTRACTS FROM TRADE UNION
TRIBUNAL REPORT

1. SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED /DAILY TIMES/ HAS LEAKED MORE
PORTIONS OF STILL UNPUBLISHED TRADE UNION TRIBUNAL REPORT. THIS
LATEST REVELATION GIVES CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH TO EX-ULC
STRONMAN ADEBOLA (WHO HAS PUBLICLY BLAMED AALC AND CIA MEDDLING
IN NIGERIAN LABOR AFFAIRS FOR HIS 1969 OUSTER) AND GENERALLY
DEVOTES MORE ATTENTION TO FOREIGN INFLUENCES THAN FEB. 16
GOVERNMENT STATEMENT. HOWEVER MAIN EMPHASIS REMAINS ON FOIBLES
OF PROSCRIBED TRADE UNION OFFICIALS AND ERRANT LOCAL LABOR
ORGANIZATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. FEBRUARY 26 /DAILY TIMES/ CARRIES UNATTRIBUTED NEWS STORY
WHICH PURPORTS TO RELATE EXTRACTS FROM AS YET UNPUBLISHED TRADE
UNION TRIBUNAL REPORT. UNDER HEADLINE "LABOUR CHIEFS GRABBED AND
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GRABBED," FOLLOWING TIDBITS REVEALED TO PUBLIC.

3. UNITED LABOR CONGRESS (ULS). ULC AFFAIRS WERE RUN IN "MOST
HAPHAZARD AND CARELESS" MANNER, ESPECIALLY IN PERIOD 1969 TO 1975
ITS OFFICIALS WERE PREOCCUPIED WITH INTRIGUES AND COUNTER-
INTRIGUES TO INSURE THEIR PRIMACY. BETWEEN 1963 AND 1972, FIN-
ANCIAL AID FROM FOREIGN LABOR ORGANIZATION AMOUNTED TO APPRO-

OXIMATELY NAIRA 300,000 PLUS CARS, SCOOTERS AND OTHER PROPERTIES. PROMINENT FOREIGN BENEFACTORS WERE ICFTU AND WEST GERMAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION. AFRICAN AMERICAN LABOR CENTER (AALC) ALSO "CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIALLY." ULC OFFICIALS KEPT FOR THEMSELVES WHATEVER CAME FROM ABROAD. H.P. ADEBOLA'S PRESIDENCY FOUND TO HAVE BEEN "WITHOUT BLEMISH." EFFECTIVENESS OF HIS SUCCESSOR AS PRESIDENT, Y.A. KALTUNGO, WAS "DIMINISHER" BECAUSE HE RESIDED IN KADUNA (RATHER THAN, PRESUMBABLY, IN LAGOS WHERE MAJOR TRADE UNION ACTION IS). ACCORDING TO TIMES' STORY, TRIBUNAL STRESSED THAT BECAUSE OF ULC'S FINANCIAL DEPENDENCE ON ICFTU AND AALC, ITS LEADERSHIP ALLOWED REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS TO HAVE FREE HAND IN RUNNING THE CONGRESS' AFFAIRS. FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDED CONFERENCES AND PARTICIPATED IN DELIBERATIONS AT ULC EXECUTIVE MEETINGS.

4. NIGERIAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS (NTUC). TRIBUNAL IS SAID TO HAVE DEPLORED "CHAOTIC STATE" OF NTUC RECORDS. IN NTUC'S THIRTEEN YEARS OF EXISTENCE, THERE HAD BEEN ONLY ONE MEANINGFUL AIRING OF THAT ORGANIZATION'S FINANCES-- AT SELF-INITIATED, WELL-PUBLICIZED BANGBALA INQUIRY 1971/1972.

CHIEF IMOUDU AND RAILWAY WORKERS. IMOUDU IS FOUND TO HAVE CAUSED CRISIS AMONG RAILWAYMEN BECAUSE OF HIS "HORDINATE AMBITION." HE HAS "OUTLIVED HIS USEFULNESS...AT SEVENTY-FIVE, HE SHOULD HAVE RETIRED MANY YEARS AGO."

6. COMMENT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PATRICK COLE, RECENTLY APPOINTED MANGING DIRECTOR OF /DAILY TIMES/ (MAJORITY STOCK OWNED BY FMG) HAS OBTAINED COPY OF TRIBUNAL REPORT FROM CABINET OFFICER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHERE HE PREVIOUSLY WORKED AS POLITICAL ADVISER. PRESUMABLY COLE IS ACTING AS GOVERNMENT CHANNEL TO LEAK DRIBS AND DRABS OF REPORT TO PUBLIC. IT INTERESTING THAT THIS LATEST REVELATION GIVES CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH TO ADEBOLA WHO SINCE HIS OUSTER AS ULC STRONGMAN IN 1969 HAS TRIED TO REGAIN HIS POSITION BY PUBLICLY CHARGING THAT AALC AND CIA MEDDLING IN NIGERIAN LABOR AFFAIRS--ALLEGATION HE RENEWED IN HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE TRIBUNAL LAST SUMMER. FOREIGN INFLUEDNCES GENERALLY FIGURE MORE PROMINENTLY IN /TIMES/ STORY THAN IN FEBRUARY 16 GOVERNMENT STATEMENT BUT MAIN EMPHASIS IS STILL ON THE FOIBLES OF LOCAL LABOR LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONS. CROSBY

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